Amendments to the Claims:

The below-listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Compared to the immediately prior version, claims 21, 28, 32 and 37 are amended, while 25, 26, 30 and 35 are canceled. Also, claims 1-20, 31 and 41 remain canceled, while all others remain as previously presented.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled).

21. (Currently Amended)   A computer system, comprising:

a directory shell able to reference two or more disparate directories each having a directory class, the directory class in one of the directories being dissimilar in directory objects and data from the directory class in another of the directories;

an administrator utility with the directory shell configurable to associate the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories, the result of associating the directory classes being a user-searchable category including a category attribute mapped to one or more class attributes of the directory class; and

a directory browser with the directory shell whereby users can search the directory classes of the two or more disparate directories with a single query of the user-searchable category, including a panel where users can view search results of the single query.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 21, wherein the two or

more disparate directories are managed on a plurality of servers in communication with a computer onto which the directory shell is loaded.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 21, further including a directory interface operable to send the single query to the two or more disparate directories.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 23, further including a director driver for each of the two or more disparate directories to allow the directory interface to communicate therewith.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 21, wherein the administrator utility further includes a table for associating the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories.

28. (Currently Amended)   A method of searching in a computer system, comprising:
    providing a directory shell with an administrator utility and a directory browser for loading onto a computer;
    enabling the administrator utility to associate directory classes of two or more disparate directories into a single user-searchable category, including enabling mapping a category attribute to one or more class attributes of one of the directory classes; and
    from the directory browser, enabling direct searching of the directory classes

of the two or more disparate directories with a single query of the single user-searchable category; and

causing displaying of search results of the single query on a panel of the directory browser.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the enabling further includes mapping a category attribute of the single user-searchable category to one or more class attributes of the directory class.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled).

32. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a directory shell for loading on a computer in communication with one or more servers having two or more disparate directories each with a directory class, the directory class in one of the directories being dissimilar in directory objects and data from the directory class in another of the directories, the directory shell having an administrator utility and a directory browser;

a table in the administrator utility configurable to associate the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories, the result of associating the directory classes being a user-searchable category including a category attribute mapped to one or more class attributes of the directory class, the table having an enable column to indicate directory classes associated with the user-searchable category;

a query portion in the directory browser whereby users can directly search the directory classes of the two or more disparate directories with a single query of the user-searchable category; and

a panel in the directory browser where users can view search results of the single query.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 32, wherein the query portion and the panel are on a same page of the directory browser.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 32, wherein the table includes one or more check boxes for the associating of the directory classes.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 32, wherein the administrator utility and directory browser is formatted to be displayed in HTML format.

37. (Currently Amended) A method of searching in a computer system, comprising:

creating a single user-searchable category from directory classes of two or more disparate directories, the creating including mapping a category attribute to one or more class attributes of one of the directory classes and indicating the directory classes associated with the user-searchable category by way of an enable column; and

directly searching the directory classes of the two or more disparate directories with a single query of the user-searchable category, the directly searching substantially avoiding creating or using a virtual or other directory.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the creating further includes associating, in an administrator utility, the directory class in the one of the directories to the directory class in the another of the directories.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the creating further includes creating additional user-searchable categories for additional directory classes of the two or more directories.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the creating further includes providing a directory shell for loading on a computer in communication with one or more servers having the two or more disparate directories.

41. (Canceled).